LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT

No. G. 4119—*G. M.* 73-37-2, *dated* 19—24*th November* 1937.

The undermentioned letter No. F. 36-35—35 G., dated the 7th October 1937 and its enclosure from the Government of India, Department of Health, Education and Lands, is published for general information in continuation of Notification No. G. 9916—G. M. 121-36-4, dated 11th June 1937.

VACCINATION CERTIFICATES—COUNTERSIGNATURE.

In continuation of this Department circular letter No. F. 36-65—35-G., dated the 10th December 1936, I am directed to say that the Government of India have after careful consideration decided to authorise the following additional classes of officers to issue vaccination certificates without countersignature and to countersign such certificates issued by other registered medical practitioners:—

(i) Chief Medical Officers and Directors of Public Health in Indian States who possess a qualification included in the Schedules to the Indian Medical Council Act, 1933;

(ii) The Senior Medical Officers in charge of Military Stations; and

(iii) District Medical Officers of Railways whether in British India or Indian States who possess qualifications recognised under the Indian Medical Council Act, 1933.

2. This decision involves amending the "Note" appended to the standard form of vaccination certificate, copies of which were forwarded with this Department letter No. F. 36-22—35-G., dated the 31st December 1935, and I am to request that the abovementioned classes of officers may kindly be added after "(v) Chief Medical Officer of a Railway", with consequential re-numbering thereof, the existing (vi) being re-numbered (ix).

3. I am to request that necessary steps may kindly be taken early to give as wide a publicity as possible to the above decision. The latest position in regard to the requirements of countersignature of vaccination certificates is indicated in the "Notice to intending passengers from India to foreign ports", a copy of which is enclosed.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Department of Education, Health and Lands.

Simla, the 7th October 1937.

NOTICE TO INTENDING PASSENGERS FROM INDIA TO FOREIGN PORTS.

To prevent the spread of small-pox from infected countries it was decided at the Regional Conference of the League of Nations held at Cape Town in 1932, that intending passengers from such countries should not be permitted to embark for foreign ports unless they are in possession of valid vaccination certificates, and that facilities should be provided for the issue of such certificates.

It is, therefore, necessary that passengers from India to foreign ports should either possess a certificate of vaccination issued by a registered medical practitioner showing that vaccination has been performed not less than 12 days and not more than 3 years before the date of embarkation or bear scars or marks of a previous attack of small-pox.

Passengers bound for East and South Africa ports and Iraq and pilgrims proceeding to Saudi Arabia must possess certificates of vaccination granted by (i) Civil Surgeons, (ii) District or Municipal Medical Officers of Health, (iii) Directors or Assistant Directors of Health, (iv) Port Health Officers of major ports, (v) Chief Medical Officers of Railways, (vi) Chief Medical Officers and Directors of Public Health in Indian States who possess a qualification included in the Schedules to the Indian Medical Council Act, 1933, (vii) Senior Medical Officers in charge of Military Stations and (viii) District Medical Officers of Railways whether in British India or in Indian States who possess qualifications recognised under the Indian Medical Council Act, 1933. If such certificates are granted by other registered medical practitioners, they must be countersigned by one or other of the officers mentioned above. This countersignature shall be obtained free of charge to the passenger by the registered medical practitioner granting the certificate.

All passengers from India to foreign ports are advised to comply with these rules if they are to avoid inconvenience and possibly detention at the port of debarkation.

By Order,

P. H. KRISHNA RAO,
Secretary to Government,
Local Self-Government Department.